

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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DRAFTED BY ARA:CAR:JRBURKE:JR

APPROVED BY ARA:CAR:JRBURKE

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P 011547Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, US, JM

SUBJECT: GOJ INTENTION TO NATIONALIZE EXXON

REFERENCE: KINGSTON 1614

1. EXXON WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE (JESSUP) CALLED ON DIRECTOR CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS APRIL 30 TO DISCUSS JAMAICAN INTENTION TO NATIONALIZE EXXON.

2. THOUGH EXXON HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR A JAMAICAN MOVE TO SEEK PARTICIPATION, JESSUP CONFIDED THAT EXXON WAS TAKEN ABACK BY SWEEPING NATURE OF GOJ PROPOSAL: COMPLETE BUY-OUT OF REFINERY OPERATION. EXXON HAD ANTICIPATED SOMETHING LESS THAN A DECISION TO TAKE OVER THE REFINERY, POSSIBLY GRADUATED GOJ PARTICIPATION LEADING EVENTUALLY TO MAJORITY CONTROL BUT NOT EXCLUDING CONTINUED EXXON EQUITY PARTICIPATION. HE SAID THAT EXXON WAS PREPARING ITS POSITION FOR

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THE FORTHCOMING TALKS WITH GOJ: HOWEVER, THEY WOULD NOT

REPEAT NOT BE READY AS EARLY AS MAY 1 AND WOULD BE SO INFORMING THE JAMAICANS. JESSUP SAID THAT EXXON WISHED TO KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED AS TALKS PROCEED AND IN THIS CONNECTION EXPECTED TO RECEIVE WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THEIR CORAL GABLES HEADQUARTERS ABOUT THE JAMAICAN PROPOSAL AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER THANKED JESSUP FOR THE FOREGOING INFORMATION AND ASKED WHAT THOUGHTS EXXON MIGHT HAVE REGARDING ANY LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TIMING OF THE JAMAICAN DECISION AND PRIME MINISTER MANLEY'S RECENT TRIP TO VENEZUELA. JESSUP SAID THAT EXXON WAS AWARE OF THE GENERAL OUTLINE OF WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THE GOV AND THE GOJ BUT WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS ANY LINKAGE BETWEEN THE MANLEY TRIP AND THE GOJ'S DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE NATIONALIZATION OF THE EXXON REFINERY. KISSINGER

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